



# Professional Development

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# Professional Development

## National Educational Technology Plan

- Strengthen leadership
- Consider innovative budgeting
- Improve teacher training
- Support e-learning and virtual schools
- Encourage broadband access
- Move toward digital content
- Integrate data systems



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## Effective Programs

- Participants' reactions
- Participants' learning
- Organizational support and change
- Participant's use of new knowledge
- Student learning

With all the support and training seemingly provided, many teachers are still viewed as resistant to integrating technology.

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## Communities of Practice

- Social and cultural context of learning
- Learning takes place in a specific context
- *Joint Enterprise* – mutual accountability
- *Mutual Engagement* – working together
- *Shared Repertoire* – accomplishments array



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## Communities of Practice, 2<sup>nd</sup> Idea

- Diversity of expertise
- Shared objective for learning
- Emphasis – learning how to learn
- Mechanisms for sharing what is learned

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## Communities of Practice, 3<sup>rd</sup> View

- Share information
- Support each other
- Complete joint activities

Conclusion: Interaction and relationships build from working together.

**How to make that happen?**



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## Communities of Practice – Organization

- Establish regular times for team interaction
- Send agendas to participants beforehand
- Designate a team librarian
- Build and maintain a team archive
- Use visual forms of communication
- Set formal rules for communication

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## Communities of Practice – Communication

- Environment of trust – involve all
- Eliminate confusion – clear purpose & work
- Productive DIALOGUE
  - Face to face meetings
  - Short bios
  - Place to post questions, ideas, projects
  - Listserv
  - Resource exchange (wiki?)



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## *Communities of Practice – Communication, Part 2*

- Share on a regular basis
  - Ask each other questions
  - Brainstorming
  - Show and tell or Best Practices
- Feedback and Encouragement
  - Others, maybe, you as facilitator for sure!

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## *Communities of Practice – Seeds*

- Help teachers uncover and make transparent their notions of classroom community
- Develop alternative forms of teacher professional development that embed social-networking tools

See: <http://tappedin.org>

It takes work to maintain interest.



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## *Technology Literacy*

The lack of accountability from administrators compromises technology goals. How to help?

Blogs – Podcasting – Wikis

Blogs & Podcasting – digital conversations

<http://thefischbowl.blogspot.com>

<http://www.learningtimes.org>

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## *Technology Literacy*

### Wikis – Resource Exchange

[http://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Future\\_Teachers\\_Meet\\_Wiki](http://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Future_Teachers_Meet_Wiki)

<http://teacherconnect.wikispaces.com/>

<http://www.libsuccess.org>

**Early Childhood** <http://eceducation.blogspot.com>

<http://reginaldwilliams.blogspot.com>